

January 6, 2011

The Honorable Representative Betty McCollum United States House of Representatives 1714 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative McCollum:

We are writing you on behalf of the 300,000 working men and women of the Minnesota AFL-CIO to urge you to vote against repealing the Affordable Care Act. Once fully implemented, the groundbreaking health care law will ensure Minnesotans and people across the country receive affordable, high-quality health care and are protected from the worst insurance company abuses.

While the law has yet to take full effect, repeal would reverse many positive changes already taking place. For example, insurance companies would once again be allowed to deny or cut off someone's coverage unexpectedly when they are in an accident, become sick, or have a pre-existing condition; this includes children.

Nearly 12,000 young adults in Minnesota would lose their insurance coverage through their parents' health plans, sometimes just after they finish school and as they are looking for a job.

Repeal would hit seniors too. 747,000 Minnesota seniors with Medicare coverage would be forced to pay a co-pay to receive critical preventive services, like mammograms and colonoscopies. Nearly 50,000 seniors would end up paying more for prescription drugs.

You stood with uninsured and underinsured Minnesotans when you voted for the Affordable Care Act last year. We strongly urge you to stand again to defend a law that is already doing a lot of good for thousands of Minnesotans and will do even more good in the years to come.

Sincerely,

**Shar Knutson** 

President

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Secretary-Treasurer

175 Aurora Avenue St. Paul, MN 55103 Phone: 651/227-7647 Fax: 651/227-3801 Toll Free: 800/652-9004 Web Site: www.mnaflcio.org